

# KNOX BELIEVES HIS MISSION SUCCESSFUL

He Returns Well Pleased with the Results of His Trip Below the Isthmus.

## MET TWO HOSTILE FORCES

One in the Southern Countries and One at Home Misrepresenting United States' Attitude.

Washington, April 17.—Secretary Knox returned to the capital to-day, satisfied that he had accomplished the mission upon which he was sent by President Taft to the Caribbean republics. Mr. Knox expressed himself as well pleased with his trip, which, despite its hardships, had had no ill effects upon the Secretary or Mrs. Knox.

Secretary Knox in a formal statement said that two forces actuated by selfish motives had operated to perpetrate misrule in the countries he visited by misrepresenting the attitude of the State Department toward these governments. One force is domestic to these countries and the other is in the United States. By personal contact with the heads of the governments visited the Secretary believes that he has been able, partly at least, to counteract the influences of which he complains.

Mr. Knox also emphasized what he considers the necessity of helping the weaker republics to avoid specific conditions in which the United States might be embarrassed by its assertion of the Monroe Doctrine.

Mr. Knox's statement follows:

The purpose of my mission, as was indicated in my letter of instruction from the President, was to find out what was, through a friendly visit and personal acquaintance with the officers of the governments and people of the Caribbean, to put our relations to them upon a basis of better understanding.

### Two Opposing Forces.

It is well known by those who have given attention to conditions in some of the countries I have visited that misrepresenting the attitude and purposes of the United States toward them, for many years, has been a continuing source of trouble.

It is equally well known that there has existed in the United States a small coterie of directly interested persons who have been endeavoring to break down the bonds of mutual protection between the weaker republics which would break down political abuses through which they were being upheld and which were wrenching uprooted.

The operation of these two forces upon social and political progress in the countries affected by them has been deadly, and the misrepresentation of us to the world and ourselves was mainly responsible for the friendly and normal international relations by crystallizing misunderstandings into prejudices. This situation has been greatly aggravated by the recent publication of the channels of getting important and substantial truth either into or out of some parts, especially of Central America.

What effect my visit may have in permanently removing these relations with and conditions in the countries I have visited is largely a matter of conjecture, and I prefer at this time to make no predictions. I have, however, all the indications that my visit will be beneficial to the cause of the weaker republics, which would break down political abuses through which they were being upheld and which were wrenching uprooted.

The truth is, there has never been a time with which I am familiar in the history of politics in this country when the political support of federal officeholders, such as it is, has been so divided, and at no time has the federal patronage exercised such influence in the national contests as it will in the one to be held at Chicago.

Mr. Gardner was at the White House to-day with the Little appointment. Commenting on his recent challenge to Colonel Roosevelt for a joint debate on the campaign issues in Massachusetts, Mr. Gardner said he had received no reply from the colonel.

## THE PRESIDENT'S DAY.

Washington, April 17.—The President and the Secretary of the Treasury discussed the Titanic disaster this morning. Mr. Taft waited anxiously all day for some news of Major Butt.

The President has accepted an invitation to attend the dedication of the new building for the negro Young Men's Christian Association of Washington on May 19.

President Taft will leave Washington in the afternoon of April 20 for Savannah to attend the centennial anniversary of the Hibernian Society, starting on his return about noon on May 2.

The President will confer with the Secretary of State, who returned from his Central American trip this afternoon, to discuss his message in reply to the Magdalena Bay resolution before transmitting to the Senate.

Among the White House callers were the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Interior, Assistant Secretary Bailey, Assistant Secretary Thompson, William Phillips, Secretary of Embassy at London; Senators Curtis, Townsend, Owen, Smith, of Michigan; Page, Root, Lodge, Pomerene, Fall and Carton, Representatives Craven, Calder, Humphrey, Young, Driscoll, Miller, Davidson, Fickett, Atkinson, Dent, Dalzell and Morgan and Representative Drury.

This afternoon the President attended the unveiling of the John Paul Jones monument and reviewed the parade.

## THE DAY IN WASHINGTON

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, April 17.

**DEEP GLOOM OVER CAPITAL.** The terrible catastrophe on the Titanic has cast a gloom over the national capital; comparative mourning and a sombre tone to the ceremonies attending the unveiling of the statue of John Paul Jones to-day. Whenever men gather it is the only subject discussed, at the Capitol, in the clubs and in society. Numerous social affairs have been postponed because of the disaster. The British Ambassador sent word to-day that, in view of it, neither he nor any member of his embassy would attend the unveiled ceremonies. The President is so greatly depressed, not alone by the terrible loss of life, but especially by the loss of his aid, Major Archibald Butt, who was greatly beloved by the chief executive and his family, as he was by all who knew him. Nor is the sentiment in Washington confined to mourning over the dead, for on all sides are to be heard expressions of indignation that so little provision for the safety of passengers had been taken, while these are accompanied by avowals of determination to enact stringent legislation at the earliest possible moment. There are few families prominent in Washington who have not lost friends, if not relatives, and the sorrow is widespread.

### REPLIES TO DIXON.

The Taft bureau to-day accused Senator Dixon, campaign manager for Mr. Roosevelt, of hypocrisy in circulating in Montana a document headed, "Shall the Amalgamated Copper Company Rule the Republican Party in Montana?" It charges that compact with trying to prevent the nomination of Mr. Roosevelt at Chicago. The belligerence of this contention, it is asserted by the Taft bureau, is demonstrated by the fact that the president of the Missoula branch of the Progressive League of Montana, the Roosevelt organization, Missoula being Senator Dixon's home, is Dwight Hughes, manager of the lumber interests of the Amalgamated Copper Company.

**TAFT GAINING STEADILY.** Reports received at the White House from Connecticut are to the effect that the President not only received the practically solid support of the state convention, but for the measure in the House with the Bristow amendment are, however, much brighter than heretofore, and the friends of the resolution believe that even if the Senate insists on the Bristow amendment, which reserves to Congress supervision over the election of Senators, the measure will not fall, as the House seems more than likely to yield, despite the abhorrence of the Democrats for anything savoring of federal supervision over elections in the South.

## MEXICO TELLS U. S.

### "KEEP HANDS OFF!"

(Continued from first page.)

It has been estimated that it will cost \$50,000 a day for water transportation, and there will be other expenses in the way of acquiring supplies.

The strategists of the War Department have a number of plans showing the approach to Mexico City from various places, both from the seaboard and from the Rio Grande. The country has been carefully examined during the last year, and much valuable information has been acquired respecting the railroads and the facilities for the local support of an invading army. The estimates of the military force which would be required for invasion vary from 200,000 to 500,000, depending entirely on the resistance which would be presented and the necessity for protecting the line of approach. It is foreseen that it will be necessary to establish bases of supplies and to maintain great vigilance in the protection of bridges and the control of numerous mountain passes which afford an excellent opportunity for the guerrilla warfare that would be encountered by American troops.

## MEXICANS INSULT YANKEES

**Believe Protection Has Been Withdrawn, Americans Report.**

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.)

El Paso, Tex., April 17.—President Taft's message to Americans telling them to leave Mexico has been taken by Mexicans to mean that protection has been withdrawn from Americans in Mexico, and the Mexicans have taken advantage of it in many places to insult Americans, according to General Gilson, a wealthy mining man and capitalist, of No. 190 Broadway, New York, and R. S. Vickers, a mining engineer, of New Orleans.

They arrived here this morning from Chihuahua, where Gilson was arrested and searched four times, and both were subjected to every manner of insults by the natives. While at Guadalajara before coming to El Paso, Mexicans called them insulting names and a Mexican woman stepped on their feet and spat in their faces. Fearing a riot, the Americans took it.

## AMERICANS QUIT IN MEXICO

**Engineers and Conductors Almost to a Man Give Up Jobs.**

Mexico City, April 17.—American engineers and conductors almost to a man quit the employ of the National Railways of Mexico to-day at the hour set for the walkout of the men, because of the refusal of the railroad management to accede to their demands, principally that an order requiring that train orders be written in Spanish be suspended. Of approximately 500 Americans in the employ of the roads only ten have signified their intention to remain at work.

The railroad management announced to-night that there would be no disorganization of service, either freight or passenger, because of lack of men.

## FLOODS SMASH LEVEES

**Waters Pour Through Great Gaps in Mississippi Dikes.**

Greenville, Miss., April 17.—The Mississippi River levee four miles south of Bushland, Miss., and about forty miles north of Greenville broke late to-night, and water is coming through with a rush. Before it finds an outlet through the Sunflower River the flood will sweep over practically all of Bolivar and parts of Sunflower, Washington, Issaquena, and Sharkey counties.

## FIGHT FOR DOWNWARD REVISION.

At a special meeting of the Reform Club yesterday at No. 9 South William street, a resolution was adopted, pledging the energies and assistance of the club in a campaign for a downward revision of the existing so-called "protective" tariff. The club announced that it considers the present the most opportune time for such a campaign.

## Some Good Fiction and Some Straight Facts

The fiction in our next Sunday Magazine will be by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Campbell MacCulloch, Sewell Ford, and James Hay, Jr., and the facts will be contributed by Charles K. Harris and Dr. Eugene Lyman Fisk.

Of course, every one is now reading Conan Doyle's great serial, "The Lost World," so there is no need to say more of that. But

## The Hard Man

BY CAMPBELL MACCULLOCH

is a short story to which we wish to call particular attention in advance. It is a red-blooded tale of British army life in Africa, with a startling surprise at the climax.

## A Late Score for Vandy

BY JAMES HAY, JR.

A rattling story of love and intrigue and politics. It is written by one who knows Washington life from behind the scenes.

## READY FOR MEXICAN CRISIS

War Department Completes Details for Military Campaign.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, April 17.—The military authorities have completed the details of a military campaign to meet fully any contingency which may arise in Mexico. For several months the War Department has been engaged on this work, arranging mainly for the transportation of a large body of troops should it become necessary to concentrate a military force in Texas or to go to the extreme of invading Mexico. Concerning the latter possibility the military authorities are reticent. The conservative army view is opposed to any such operations, since it would be a serious matter, offering every prospect of protracted fighting and entailing great expense. Conservative military experts believe it would amount almost to a permanent military occupation in order to preserve peace and order and protect property both of foreigners as well as Americans.

The Mexican government and people cannot be responsible, therefore, for the acts of this rebel chief along the lines laid down in the communication which was sent to him in order of your excellency's government.

The government also deplores that the tenor of the instructions to Consul Letcher, in Chihuahua, were given to the public in the same official note which I have the honor to answer.

I take this opportunity to reiterate to your excellency the assurances of my most high consideration.

## Making a Nation Whistle

By CHARLES K. HARRIS

"The Science of Song Writing," Mr. Harris might have called this illuminating article. The most successful man of his craft shows how he has reduced things to a science.

## What Is a Cold

By EUGENE LYMAN FISK, M. D.

Dr. Fisk tells just what it is and isn't, and how to avoid patent nostrums in treating the affliction, and what to do in many kinds of cases.

## Our next Illustrated Song

Drawing by HOWARD CHANDLER CHRISTY

## "Drink to Me Only with Thine Eyes"

the classic by Ben Jonson, is illustrated by the reproduction of a beautiful painting by the noted illustrator.

## IN THE NEXT

## Sunday Magazine

OF THE

## NEW-YORK TRIBUNE